IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: John A. Shield Group Art Unit: 1797

Appl. No. 10/588,341 Examiner: Brian A. McCaig

Filed: August 3, 2006

Confirmation No.: 8231 For: Hydrocarbons Having Reduced Levels of

Mercaptans and Method and Composition Useful for Preparing Same

Mail Stop: Amendment Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED MARCH 19, 2009

I. **Introductory Comments**

The present paper is being submitted in response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed March 19, 2009.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.